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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Warner Lee HINES et al.	§	Confirmation No.:	1592
Serial No.:	10/034,898	§	Group Art Unit:	2642
Filed:	12/28/2001	§	Examiner:	Q. H. Nguyen
For:	Message Path Bypass For Intelligent Network Elements	§ § § § § § §	Docket No.:	200302374-1

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 27, 2004

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of September 27, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.